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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

GOVERNMENT STRENGTHENS CONTROL  
OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

STATE TO INSPECT HARVESTS -- Izgrev, No 1598, 9 Dec 49

The Presidium of the Great National Assembly passed a decree establishing a harvest inspection organization in the State Planning Commission. The new state inspection agencies will check the data of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Central Statistical Administration to determine the actual sowing areas according to okoliya and according to individual crops.

Furthermore, state inspection agencies of the State Planning Commission will examine and verify the data submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture and local people's soviets on crops destroyed by natural causes, and on losses on the premises, and will report to the government their conclusions as to the real causes of the destruction. The crops may be deleted from the government records only upon a satisfactory report from the state inspection agency stating the origin of the loss.

A further duty of the inspection agencies will be to establish the volume of grain harvests before reaping and to spot-check threshing operations.

The state inspection agencies will establish the harvest quotas of all agricultural plants for the State Planning Commission, which will determine the plan for the over-all production of grain and fodder plants and submit it to the government.

The state inspection organization will consist of the chief inspector and his deputy, the regional state inspectors and their assistants, and auxiliary personnel. The entire staff will be appointed by the Council of Ministers.

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FALL SOWING PLAN STILL UNFULFILLED -- Otechestven Front, No 1624, 4 Dec 49

The Ministry of Agriculture reports that as of 30 November, 74.2 percent of the fall plan for deep plowing throughout the country had been fulfilled.

TIGHTENS AGRICULTURAL, RATION CONTROLS -- Izgrev, No 1595, 6 Dec 49

As a result of the drought and the small volume of the 1949 grain harvest, all Party and state organizations are being called to mobilize their resources for a speedy delivery of crops and the strictest economy in bread consumption. A statement outlining the situation and corrective measures to be taken was issued on 2 December over the signatures of Vasil Kolarov, President of the Council of Ministers, and Vulko Chervenkov, Secretary, Central Committee, Bulgarian Communist Party. The main points of the statement are summarized, as follows:

Some okoliya have repeatedly and wilfully reduced their harvest deliveries and are maliciously squandering bread and grain. Local people's soviets and Party committees have not taken action to correct these unhealthy conditions. In some okoliya, where the 1949 harvest is estimated to have been normal, grain deliveries were only one-half or one-third as large as in 1948 (Lom, Vidin, Kula). The Ministry of Home Trade has shown an overconfident attitude and accepted deliveries without further examination of data submitted by the peoples' soviets.

In view of these facts, the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party concludes that the Ministry of Home Trade and local peoples' and Party organizations have failed to prevent pilfering and wasting of national food resources, as well as to control the proper distribution of bread ration cards (180,000 too many cards were issued). Statistical services have also been inaccurate in reporting the extent of planted areas, the volume of harvests, and the average yield of crops.

Because of these irregularities, the Central Committee and the Council of Ministers passed a resolution directing the Minister of Home Trade, peoples' soviets, and local Party organizations to assure proper and speedy deliveries of grain harvests and the correct issuance of distribution of bread ration cards.

A strict economy must be maintained in the use of grain. The Ministry of Home Trade and the peoples' soviets will see to it that all quotas due are collected and delivered before the end of December 1949. The Ministry of Home Trade cannot authorize any reductions in the required quota of crops.

Bread ration cards will be issued monthly beginning 1 January 1950, to the working population in cities and to agricultural producers in some disaster areas, if they have consumed all their own products and reserves. Persons not engaged in useful work, and speculators, will not be permitted to receive ration cards. The cards will be issued on presentation of the following documents: (a) an address card, (b) an employer's certificate stating the place and type of work, professional people will present certificates from their unions or associations, (c) a certificate from the local peoples' soviet, signed by the chief of the agricultural service, stating that the applicant is not engaged in agriculture, or, in the opposite case, how much land he owns and what amount of crops he raises.

Beginning 1 January 1950, grain products will be purchased only on ration cards issued according to the above regulations.

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On 15 December 1949, the Ministry of Home Trade will establish a special department of quotas and cards to study and determine the size and distribution of bread allotments.

The supply plan for the city and rural population will be established by the Ministry of Home Trade, assisted by the State Planning Commission, and must receive the monthly approval of the Council of Ministers. The Ministry is not authorized to issue any allotments outside the framework of this plan. The fodder-distribution plan must be approved by the Council of Ministers every 3 months.

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party will make Dr Dobrev, Minister of Home Trade, responsible for the strictest application of the above measures.

The director of the grain-supply agency, Dr Vulkov, is severely reprimanded for his faulty execution of the supply plan, tardy purchase of crops, and laxness in bread distribution. The chairmen and secretaries of various okoliya and local soviets and Party committees are also severely reprimanded and relieved of their posts.

The Minister of Home trade, the State Control Commission, and the local Peoples' Soviets will exercise strict control over the distribution of bread ration cards, the use of bread, and the output of flour mills. Regular inspections will be made in enterprises responsible for ration-card distribution, in bakeries, and at the local peoples' soviets allocating bread to villages and separate households.

Violations will be prosecuted under the law of supply and prices and the general penal law.

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